

CLAIMS

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A jamb assembly, adapted for use in a door frame, and comprising:
 - (a) an elongate jamb having a length, and comprising an inner flange (28) having a first proximal edge and a first distal edge, an outer flange (30) having a second proximal edge and a second distal edge, and a jamb face plate (32) extending between said inner flange at the first proximal edge and said outer flange at the second proximal edge, said elongate jamb defining an elongate cavity therein extending along the length of said elongate jamb, and extending from at or adjacent an inner surface of said jamb face plate to an elongate opening proximate the first and second distal edges of said inner and outer flanges, the elongate opening being defined along the length of said elongate jamb between said inner and outer flanges; and
 - (b) as a separate and distinct element, at least one elongate reinforcing insert, having a length, received in the elongate cavity and extending at least to the elongate opening, said reinforcing insert operating to increase stiffness of said jamb assembly.
2. A jamb assembly as in Claim 1 wherein said elongate reinforcing insert interfaces either directly or indirectly with said elongate jamb at at least three spatially-displaced points at a given locus along the length of said elongate jamb.
3. A jamb assembly as in Claim 1 wherein said elongate reinforcing insert interfaces either directly or indirectly with said elongate jamb at at least three spatially-displaced locations along substantially all of the common lengths of said insert and said jamb.

4. A jamb assembly as in Claim 1 wherein a width of said elongate reinforcing insert between a first element of said inner flange and a first element of said outer flange extends a distance "D" generally aligned with said inner and outer flanges, thereby filling a substantial portion of the elongate cavity between said jamb face plate and the elongate opening.

5. A jamb assembly as in Claim 1 wherein said elongate insert fills substantially all space in the cavity between an element of said inner flange and an element of said outer flange, and fills a substantial portion of all space between the elongate opening and said jamb face plate.

6. A jamb assembly as in Claim 4, and including a void space in the elongate cavity between said insert and a second element of at least one of said inner flange and said outer flange.

7. A jamb assembly as in Claim 5, and including a void space in the elongate cavity between said insert and a second element of at least one of said inner flange and said outer flange.

8. A jamb assembly as in Claim 1, further comprising at least first and second spacing blocks (68) disposed between said insert and said jamb face plate.

9. A jamb assembly as in Claim 8, said spacing blocks collectively providing a mounting surface which receives a corresponding surface of said insert.

10. A jamb assembly as in Claim 8, said spacing blocks being spaced from each other along the length of said jamb.

11. A jamb assembly as in Claim 2, further comprising at least first and second spacing blocks (68) disposed between said insert and said jamb face plate, said spacing blocks collectively providing a mounting surface which receives a corresponding surface of said insert, whereby said spacing blocks (68) serve as indirect interfaces between said insert and said jamb face plate.

12. A jamb assembly as in Claim 8 wherein said spacing blocks collectively provide a generally planar mounting surface which receives a corresponding surface of said insert.

13. A jamb assembly as in Claim 1, further comprising a draw fastener which draws said insert toward said jamb face plate.

14. A jamb assembly as in Claim 8, further comprising a draw fastener which draws said insert toward said jamb face plate.

15. A jamb assembly as in Claim 11, further comprising a draw fastener which draws said insert toward said jamb face plate.

16. A jamb assembly as in Claim 8, said jamb assembly further comprising, in the elongate cavity, one or more elements of door interface hardware (67) permanently mounted to said jamb, said door interface hardware having first thicknesses thereof extending away from said jamb face plate and toward the elongate opening, said spacing blocks collectively providing a mounting surface disposed generally between the elongate opening and said door interface hardware.

17. A jamb assembly as in Claim 16, further comprising a draw fastener which draws said insert toward said jamb face plate.

18. A jamb assembly as in Claim 16 wherein said door interface hardware interrupts a de minimis portion of, and thereby extends through a de minimis area of, an imaginary plane defining the mounting surface.

19. A jamb assembly as in Claim 8, a projected area of said jamb being defined from the direction of the elongate opening, said jamb assembly further comprising, in the elongate cavity, one or more elements of door interface hardware (67) permanently mounted to said jamb, said spacing blocks and said door interface hardware occupying different portions of the projected area of said jamb.

20. A jamb assembly as in Claim 8 wherein said spacing blocks extend from said inner flange to said outer flange.

21. A jamb assembly as in Claim 20 wherein said spacing blocks are friction fitted between said inner flange and said outer flange.

22. A jamb assembly as in Claim 8 wherein both said spacing blocks and said insert are friction fitted between respective portions of said inner and outer flanges.

23. A jamb assembly as in Claim 13 wherein both said spacing blocks and said insert are friction fitted between respective portions of said inner and outer flanges.

24. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said

hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 1.

25. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 3.

26. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 4.

27. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 5.

28. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 8.

29. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 10.

30. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said

hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 12.

31. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 13.

32. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 16.

33. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 19.

34. A door assembly comprising a hinge jamb assembly, a strike jamb assembly, and a header jamb or header jamb assembly, at least one of said hinge jamb assembly and said strike jamb assembly comprising a jamb assembly as in Claim 22.

35. A building comprising a doorway, and a door assembly in said doorway, said door assembly comprising a door assembly as in Claim 24.

36. A building comprising a doorway, and a door assembly in said doorway, said door assembly comprising a door assembly as in Claim 25.

37. A building comprising a doorway, and a door assembly in said doorway, said door assembly comprising a door assembly as in Claim 26.

38. A building comprising a doorway, and a door assembly in said doorway, said door assembly comprising a door assembly as in Claim 28.

39. A building comprising a doorway, and a door assembly in said doorway, said door assembly comprising a door assembly as in Claim 30.

40. A building comprising a doorway, and a door assembly in said doorway, said door assembly comprising a door assembly as in Claim 32.

41. A building comprising a doorway, and a door assembly in said doorway, said door assembly comprising a door assembly as in Claim 34.

42. A building as in Claim 35, said door assembly being mounted in said doorway using a fastener having a detachable head, whereby manipulation of said head is ineffective to remove said fastener from said door assembly.

43. A building as in Claim 38, said door assembly being mounted in said doorway using a fastener having a detachable head, whereby manipulation of said head is ineffective to remove said fastener from said door assembly.

44. A building as in Claim 40, said door assembly being mounted in said doorway using a fastener having a detachable head, whereby manipulation of said head is ineffective to remove said fastener from said door assembly.

45. A building as in Claim 41, said door assembly being mounted in said doorway using a fastener having a detachable head, whereby manipulation of said head is ineffective to remove said fastener from said door assembly.

46. A building doorway, and a door assembly mounted in said doorway, said doorway being defined by a rough opening and building framing members defining the rough opening,

said door assembly comprising a plurality of elongate jambs, each having a length, and comprising an inner flange (28), an outer flange (30), and a jamb face plate (32), and an elongate cavity therein extending along the length of said elongate jamb, and defined between said inner and outer flanges and outwardly of said jamb face plate to an elongate opening into the elongate cavity,

at least one of said elongate jambs further comprising, as a separate and distinct element, at least one elongate reinforcing insert received in the elongate cavity and extending at least to the elongate opening,

said rough opening being defined by a single thickness of structural member used to define a frame of said building in facing relationship with said at least one elongate jamb which comprises said reinforcing insert, and wherein a double thickness of said structural member would normally be used to define said rough opening in facing relationship with said at least one elongate jamb, said elongate insert in said door assembly being structurally mounted to the respective said single thickness structural member so as to provide substantially the same structural strength as the normal double thickness rough opening framing structure.

47. A building comprising a doorway as in Claim 46.

48. A building doorway, and a door assembly mounted in said doorway opening as in Claim 46 wherein said elongate reinforcing insert interfaces either

directly or indirectly with said elongate jamb at at least three spatially-displaced points at a given locus along the length of said elongate jamb.

49. A building doorway, and a door assembly mounted in said doorway opening as in Claim 46, said at least one elongate jamb comprising inner and outer flanges, connected to each other by a jamb face plate, and wherein a width of said elongate reinforcing insert between a first element of said inner flange and a first element of said outer flange extends a distance "D" generally aligned with said inner and outer flanges, thereby filling a substantial portion of the elongate cavity between said jamb face plate and the elongate opening.

50. A building doorway, and a door assembly mounted in said doorway opening as in Claim 46, said at least one elongate jamb comprising inner and outer flanges, connected to each other by a jamb face plate, further comprising at least first and second spacing blocks (68) disposed between said insert and said jamb face plate, said spacing blocks providing a mounting surface which receives a corresponding surface of said insert.

51. A building doorway, and a door assembly mounted in said doorway opening as in Claim 46, said at least one elongate jamb comprising inner and outer flanges, connected to each other by a jamb face plate, said jamb assembly further comprising, in the elongate cavity, one or more elements of door interface hardware (67) permanently mounted to said jamb, said door interface hardware having first thicknesses thereof extending away from said jamb face plate and toward the elongate opening, said spacing blocks collectively providing a mounting surface disposed generally between the elongate opening and said door interface hardware.

52. A building doorway, and a door assembly mounted in said doorway opening as in Claim 51 wherein said door interface hardware interrupts a de minimis portion of, and thereby extends through a de minimis area of, an imaginary plane defining the mounting surface.

53. A building doorway and a door assembly mounted in said doorway, as in Claim 46, said at least one elongate jamb being secured to said building framing members which define the rough opening by at least one fastener, wherein said fastener comprises a threaded fastener body, and as a separate and distinct element, a fastener head, said fastener body and said fastener head being cooperatively configured such that said head can be mounted on said fastener body and thereafter can be used to drive said fastener body through said jamb assembly and into one of said building framing members which define the rough opening and wherein, after said fastener body had been so driven, said fastener head is ineffective to facilitate removal of said fastener body from the respective said building framing member or from said jamb assembly, whereby manipulation of said fastener head is ineffective for releasing said door assembly from the doorway.

54. A combination fastener comprising a fastener body, and as a separate and distinct element, a fastener head,

said fastener body having a first set of threads having a first thread configuration extending from a first end of said fastener body, and a second set of threads having a second thread configuration extending from a second opposing end of said fastener body,

said fastener head comprising a bore extending longitudinally therealong from a first end thereof, said bore comprising inner threads corresponding to the second thread configuration, and a stop disposed in said bore, and toward a second end of said bore from said first end, such that the fastener head can be threaded onto the fastener body, and in cooperation with said stop in said head, can thereby be used to drive said fastener, and to accordingly fasten said fastener to a substrate, and wherein, once said fastener body is driven into a substrate using said head as a driving tool, said fastener head is ineffective to remove said fastener body from such substrate.